

Compact County Partner Meeting

10am-11:30am

February 25th, 2016

Minnehaha County Administration Building 2nd Floor Training Room

415 N Dakota Ave

Sioux Falls, SD 57104

Attendees: Carol Muller (Minnehaha County); Jamie Gravett (Minnehaha County); Erin Srstka (Minnehaha County); Manny de Castro (Lake County); Sheila Weber (Lutheran Social Services); Randy Thaler (Charles Mix); Lee Ann Pierce (Brookings County); Steve Gordon (McCook County); Larry Mehlhaff (Hutchinson County); Clint Clites (Yankton County); Andy Howe (Clay County); Tom Ehrichs (Moody County); Tom Reisch (Miner County); Mick Miller (Turner County); Richard Headid (Union County); Milton Ustad (Union County); Staci Jonson (Lutheran Social Services); Melanie Towne (Lutheran Social Services); Kim Adamson (Minnehaha County).

Absent: Davison County; Bon Homme County; Hanson County; Lincoln County.

Minutes:

1. Welcome and Introductions

Jamie Gravett, Director,
Minnehaha County JDC

Jamie Gravett began meeting and everyone introduced themselves.

2. Current Status of Building Project

Jamie Gravett, Director,
Minnehaha County JDC

Minnehaha County is placing juvenile related building projects on hold. Due to the implementation of Senate Bill 73 and the change local shelter care service provider, the Commission wants to wait until the Senate Bill has been in process for a few months, gather data in relation to bed day utilization, and gain a recommendation from the Compact County Partner committee for next steps.

3. Shelter Care Program Presentation

Sheila Weber, VP Children &
Youth Services, Lutheran Social
Services

As of March 1st Volunteers of America (VOA) will no longer operate the shelter care/group care program. The Shelter Care Program will be operated by Lutheran Social Services (LSS) and begin services on May 2nd, 2016. The reason for the May start date is because LSS is closing down one of their psychiatric residential programs and utilizing that space and staff to operate shelter care and reception center. The youth in the psychiatric program will need to be place somewhere else and the staff will need to be trained. LSS estimates this will take 2 months and 2 weeks. If the transition happens more quickly, there could be a possibility to have shelter care begin earlier.

LSS has been a service provider in the state of South Dakota for many years and operates a shelter care and reception center program in Pennington County. The transition to offer these programs in Sioux Falls is a



natural fit. The shelter care and reception center will operate at the LSS location in the north end of Sioux Falls, 621 E Presentation Street. Reception center acts as a short term, screening and referring program. Youth can self-refer or be dropped off by law enforcement. Once at the reception center a screenings, service referrals as appropriate, and unification with parents occur. Youth usually stay a few hours and most referrals are from law enforcement. Shelter care will be available for youth to stay for up to 30 days, with a 30 day extension in rare cases when a placement has been made, however a bed or slot may not be available. The shelter care will have 15 beds available for youth and assessments, screenings, and groups will be completed. This will be a coed unit, licensed with the State, and be available for all the partner counties.

This facility also hosts 2 other residential programs in two different pods. The youth will not be intermixed, however the professional staff, such as psychologists, nurses, and counselors, will be available for the shelter care youth to access. This allows for a certain synergy of access to services for the youth.

4.&5. Per Diem Rate and Year Plan Presentation and Discussion

Jamie Gravett, Director,
Minnehaha County JDC

Secure Detention Per Diem Increase

The per diem cost for secure detention is \$346 and the current rate for the partner counties is \$165. Minnehaha County is requesting a per diem increase for secure detention to \$200. The increase is expected to occur in April or May. It will be brought to the Minnehaha County Commission in a few weeks. A memo and new agreement to sign will be sent out as soon as action is taken.

Shelter Care Program Start-up Cost Share and Per Diem Increase

VOA gave a 90 day notice, at which point the County staff worked hard to find another option. LSS was a natural fit given they had space, staff, and operate the same program in Pennington County. With the transition in service providers come start-up costs. The estimated start-up costs are predicted to be around \$135,000. It is being proposed to share the cost between all the partner counties. The share would be based on the last five years of bed utilization. Minnehaha County would have around 70% or so of the cost and the other 30% would be split amongst the other partner counties.

The per diem rate for licensed shelter care is set by the State. The actual per diem cost for the shelter care is \$189, the state per diem rate set for the shelter care program in Rapid City is \$155 and the rate that VOA rate had was \$120. Since the actual cost is more than the per diem rate, the contract structure to maintain a viable program has to be where the County takes on the operation cost risk. LSS will bill Minnehaha actual cost minus any revenue gained from per diem revenue. The partner counties, DSS, and DOC will pay whatever per diem the State sets. This leaves Minnehaha County covering the cost difference in per diem and actual cost and to cover any other associated operating costs.

2017 and Beyond Plan

Minnehaha County wants to work with the Partner Counties throughout 2016 to develop a plan for a long-term partnership contract/agreement in regards to shelter care, secure detention, and recommendations in reference to building structure. The plan is to work as a partnership to come to consensus on an agreement for cost sharing and any building recommendations to present to the Minnehaha Commission with the idea of beginning the new agreement in 2017. This means, there will be more frequent meetings to discuss what the plan will be.



5. Next Steps

Jamie Gravett, Director,
Minnehaha County JDC

- *By April: Contract Agreement for Calendar Year 2016- JDC per diem rate \$200 and shared startup cost.*
- *Next Meeting Date April 28th 10am-noon at Lutheran Social Services, 621 E Presentation Street.*

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